

**REMARKS**

The present amendment is being submitted as a submission under 37 CFR 1.114(c) and is intended to further the prosecution of the present application.

**Summary of Response**

Claims 1-21 were pending at the time of the Advisory Action.

Claims 6, 11-13, 15, and 16 were cancelled.

New Claim 22 was added.

Claims 1, 7-10, 14, and 17-19 were amended.

Claims 2-5, 9, 10, 20, and 21 remain as originally or previously presently.

Remarks and Arguments are provided below.

**Summary of Claims Pending**

Claims 1-5, 7-10, 14, and 17-22 are currently pending following this response.

**Interview Summary**

A telephone interview was conducted with Examiner Douglas Blair and Elizabeth Pham on September 15, 2006. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for his time and consideration of this matter. Claim 1 was discussed in view of Lavin et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0037174 A1). The Examiner noted that Lavin et al. did not appear to disclose a middleware brokering server as taught by the present application. However, the Examiner suggested that Claim 1 be amended to include the limitation that the first and second middleware computing systems facilitate data exchange between two or more disparate applications in order

to distinguish them from adapter/connector taught by Lavin et al. that facilitates data exchange between a single application and the middleware. The Examiner also suggested that Claim 1 be amended to include the conversion of the message from the native language format of the application to the native language format of the middleware computing system and vice versa. The Examiner suggested that having the two layers of conversion in the claim (one from the application to the middleware computing system and the other from the middleware computing system to the middleware brokering server) would further distinguish it from the single conversion layer of Lavin et al., which only goes from application to middleware computing system. The Examiner stated that amending Claim 1 as suggested would make it allowable unless a reference is found that teaches a middleware brokering server as disclosed by the present application.

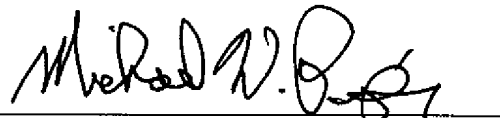
**Conclusion**

If the Examiner has any questions or comments or otherwise feels it would be helpful in expediting the application, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (972) 731-2288.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any further fees associated with any of the foregoing papers submitted herewith, or to credit any overpayment thereof, to Deposit Account No. 21-0765, Sprint.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/19/2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael W. Piper", is written over a horizontal line.

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